

been familiar to me in  
the British Museum Library,  
and I can assure you, it ~~is~~  
bears marks of constant use.

If you favour me with a letter,  
I give you fair warning that  
I shall in all probability  
print it, if a second ed<sup>n</sup>  
ever comes about, unless  
you forbid it. With the  
most sincere expression of my  
unbounded regard for your  
scientific eminence,  
I beg to remain,

Dear Professor Asa Gray,  
Yours most sincerely  
W. P. James

47 Hamilton Gardens  
Grove End Road  
London  
N.W.

The March 1882

Dear Sir,

I venture to send you a  
book in which I have tried  
to state the doctrine of Design  
in contrast with the  
materialism now in fashion.  
I scarcely say whether it  
meet with your approbation,  
but I have a lurking hope that  
it may ~~refer to~~ <sup>agree with</sup> your biblical  
creed, at any rate partially.  
It has been written as a feeble  
protest against the one-sided &  
oppressive reputation of all purposes.

in Nature with which the German  
botanists are now favouring us.

I allude, for instance, to Hermann  
Müller's fascim, esp<sup>d</sup> in Schenk's  
Handbuch der Botanik now in  
issue, and of course to Haeckel.

Should you approve of this trifle,  
it may be within your power  
to recommend it or to review  
it on your side of the Atlantic.

I believe you will admit my  
facts to be correct — I have  
chiefly been a teacher of classics,  
but have also taught Botany  
a favourite pastime from my  
boyhood. Microscopically I have

done most with Algae, but  
that is little thro' lack of  
opportunity.

Now that I have leisure (having  
~~small~~ private means) I am  
discouraged from going on treating  
of botany by the very few who  
know anything about it, and  
can judge of ~~your~~ <sup>the</sup> work.

I am now collecting materials  
for a popular account of  
the physical work of rivers with  
a chapter on their names.

I do not know why I should  
trouble you with a letter,  
except that ~~you~~ one of your  
books (Structure Botany) has long